

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants and Applicants' attorney express appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the recent interview held on October 27, 2003. Reconsideration and allowance for the above-identified application are now respectfully requested. Claims 1-11 and 14-26 are pending, wherein claims 1, 2 and 17 have been amended, claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled, and claims 21-26 are new.

During the Examiner Interview the Examiner agreed that the substance of claim 1 as now amended defines over the art of record.¹ In particular, it was agreed that the art of record neither teaches nor suggests a dental floss dispenser that comprises (1) a body having two parts that together define a cavity and (2) a support arm that is partially received within the cavity. For this reason Applicants submit that claim 1 as amended is in allowable form, as are the claims that depend therefrom. Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found in Figures 3 and 4 and in paragraphs 29-33 of the specification.

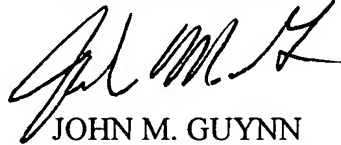
The Office Action indicates that claim 20 is allowed and that claims 5-7, 11, 16, 18 and 19 define allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 17 as now amended represents claim 11 written in independent form; new claim 21 represents claim 5 written in independent form; and new claim 26 represents claim 16 written in independent form. Accordingly, claims 17, 21 and 26 are believed to be in allowable form, as are the claims which depend therefrom.

¹ Applicants modified claim 1 slightly from what was presented during the Examiner interview in order for claim 1 to be consistent with claim 2. The modification does not alter the meaning of claim 1 in a manner that detracts from what was agreed during the Examiner Interview to define over the art of record.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, or which may be overcome by an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 30th day of October 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



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